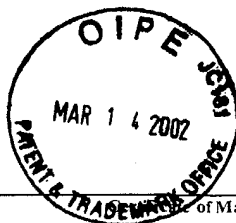


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Docket No.: 20239-706

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| Date: <u>February 28, 2002</u> | | Name of Person Certifying: <u>Carol M. Gruppi</u> |

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Klaus Pfeffer

Assignee: Bavarian Nordic Research Institute A/S

Serial No.: 09/403,690

Examiner: J. Einsmann

Filing Date: January 26, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1655

Title: TAQMANTM PCR FOR DETECTION OF PATHOGENIC E.COLI STRAINS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 29, 2001. This response is accompanied by a petition for an extension of time to extend the period to respond to the Office Action to February 28, 2002, and the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and § 1.17. Accordingly this response is timely filed. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-20.

Please add new claims 21-40 as provided below.

Sub E1
21. A Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) method for detection and differentiation of pathogenic enterobacteria in a sample, said method comprising: